

HCS SB 514 -- HEALTH CARE

SPONSOR: Sater (Solon)

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass with HCS" by the Standing Committee on Children and Families by a vote of 7 to 3. Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Rules- Administrative Oversight by a vote of 8 to 0.

This bill which allows a person who resides in Missouri that received foster care for at least six months in another state and is at least 18 years of age to be eligible for MO HealthNet benefits until the age of 26.

It also allows a pharmacist to dispense self-administered oral hormonal contraceptives to a patient who is 18 years old or older and is in possession of a prescription from a health care practitioner. This prescription shall have no expiration date.

The Board of Pharmacy and the Board of Registration for the Healing Arts shall jointly promulgate rules that will require a pharmacist to complete training on dispensing oral contraceptives, to provide a self-screening risk assessment to a patient, to refer the patient to a health care practitioner, to provide the patient with a written record or the prescription, and to dispense the oral contraceptive as soon as practicable.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that this bill is good for foster children who age out of the system in other states to receive the same benefits as Missouri residents. There are only about 30 persons per year who would be eligible under this provision and they face so many obstacles, but with this bill health care would not have to be an issue.

Testifying for the bill were Senator Sater; Nicole Lynch, Empower Missouri; Family Forward; Kids Win Missouri; and the Missouri Coalition of Children's Agencies.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.